

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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46

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W
----- 090342

O 021543Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY OSLO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1227

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK IMMEDIATE

USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L OSLO 1054

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIS, MARR, NATO, PFOR, IC, NO, UK

SUBJECT: UK/ICELANDIC FISHERIES DISPUTE: EXPANDED NORWEGIAN
PROPOSAL

REFS:

(A) OSLO 1034, (B) OSLO 1015, (C) OSLO 0996,

(D) OSLO 0954

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. IN AN INTERVIEW RECENTLY IN COPENHAGEN WITH THE
NORTH NORWEGIAN NEWSPAPER "NORDLYS" ICELANDIC PRIME
MINISTER HALLGRIMSSON REPORTEDLY SAID IF THE UK
WITHDRAWS ITS NAVAL VESSELS FROM ICELANDIC WATERS AND
IN A TRANSITION PERIOD AGREES TO ABIDE ITSELF BY THE
FISHING LIMIT DEMANDS IT HAS MADE ON OTHER EC NATIONS,
THERE ARE POSSIBILITIES FOR RENEWED NEGOTIATIONS
TO END THE COD WAR.

2. HALLGRIMSSON NOTED REPORTEDLY THAT ONE OF THE THINGS
BRITAIN IS DEMANDING OF ITS EC PARTNERS IS ACCEPTANCE
OF A 100-MILE FISHING ZONE RESERVED EXCLUSIVELY FOR
BRITISH FISHERMEN. IF THE UK DURING A TRANSITION
PERIOD CAN RECOGNIZE A SIMILAR EXCLUSIVE FISHING ZONE
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FOR ICELAND, HALLGRIMSSON SAID HE BELIEVES RENEWED

NEGOTIATIONS ON THE COD WAR BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES
COULD BE POSSIBLE, THE NEWS ACCOUNT SAID. THE
"NORDLYS" ACCOUNT WAS PRINTED MARCH 2 IN THE OSLO
LABOR PARTY NEWSPAPER "ARBEIDERBLADET."
END UNCLASSIFIED. BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL

3. FOREIGN MINISTER FRYDENLUND INFORMS ME THAT
HALLGRIMSSON DID MENTION THIS IDEA IN THEIR TALKS IN
COPENHAGEN FEB 29. BUT FRYDENLUND SAID HE FRANKLY
DID NOT KNOW HOW SERIOUSLY THE ICELANDIC PRIME MINISTER
WEIGHED THE MATTER.

4. FRYDENLUND ALSO INFORMED ME THAT SINCE THE KEY
BRITISH OFFICIALS ARE OUT OF THE UK NOW HE IS
HOPING TO GET A REPLY FROM THEM ON HIS LATEST
PROPOSAL BY MARCH 3 RATHER THAN MARCH 2 AS HE HAD
EXPECTED (OSLO 1034, PARA 6).
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BYRNE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DISPUTE SETTLEMENT, TROOP DEPLOYMENT, PRESS CONFERENCES, NEGOTIATIONS, FISHING DISPUTES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 MAR 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: saccheem
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976OSLO01054
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760079-0411
From: OSLO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t197603104/aaaadnqu.tel
Line Count: 80
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: saccheem
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15 APR 2004 by greeneet>; APPROVED <05 AUG 2004 by saccheem>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UK/ICELANDIC FISHERIES DISPUTE: EXPANDED NORWEGIAN PROPOSAL
TAGS: EFIS, MARR, PFOR, IC, NO, UK, NATO, (HALLGRIMSSON, GEIR)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006